New Coal Mining Policy

313. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to withdraw the coal mining policy of 1979 and replace it with a more liberal mining policy; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the new proposed policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The new policy seeks to address the issue of coal mining by State Government Undertakings or companies.

Bifurcation of Mahanadi Coalfield

314. SHRI RAMCHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering the bifurcation of Mahanadi Coalfield and open a new coal company at Talcher in view of huge deposits of coal in Orissa; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) At present, there is no such proposal for bifurcation of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited.

Non-supply of coal to Private entrepreneurs under linkage system

†315. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private entrepreneurs are not being supplied coal under linkage system during past several years;

(b) if so, since when and reasons therefor and the loss suffered by

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.